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Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/045,920	WILLIAM S. ANDREAS	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Mylinh T Tran	2179	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTO-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. This communication is responsive to 01/09/02.
2. The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-4, 6-12, 14-17 and 19-23 (renumbered claims 1-20).
3. The drawings filed on _____ are accepted by the Examiner.
4. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All b) Some* c) None of the:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

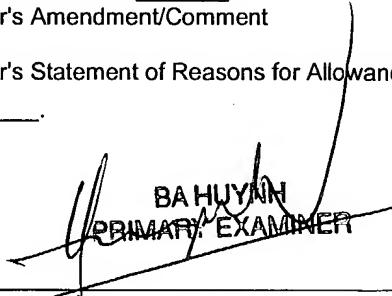
* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) hereto or 2) to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date 01/09/02.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date 08/17/04.
7. Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. Other _____.



BA HUYNH
PRIMARY EXAMINER

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Stephen Keohane on 08/17/04.

The application has been amended as follows:

Figure 1 has been labeled as "prior art".

Cancel claims 5, 13 and 18.

Claims 6 and 7, "The method of claim 5" has been changed to –The method of claim 1--.

Claim 14, "The system of claim 13" has been changed to –The system of claim 10--.

Claims 19-20, "The program storage device of claim 18" has been change to –The program storage device of claim 15--.

Claim 1:

A method for displaying the status of tasks, comprising the step of: displaying in a progress control bar a progress bar and a first action button;

said progress bar visually representing progress of a primary background operating; [and]

said action button selectable by a user for initiating an action with respect to said primary background operation [.] ;

executing at least one secondary background operation;

displaying a second action button in said progress control bar; and

responsive to user selection of said second action button, displaying a drop list of second progress control bars, with one second progress control bar for each said secondary background operation.

Claim 10:

System for displaying the status of tasks operating in the background, comprising:

a status bar;

a progress control bar in said status bar including a progress bar and a first action button;

said progress bar visually representing progress of a primary background operating; [and]

said action button selectable by a user for initiating an action with respect to said primary background operation [.] ; and

a second action button in said progress control bar responsive to user selection for alternately displaying and collapsing a drop list of second

progress control bars, with one second progress control bar for each of one or more secondary background operations.

Claim 15:

A program storage device readable by a machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by a machine to perform method steps for displaying the status of tasks, said method steps comprising:

displaying in a progress control bar a progress bar and a first action button;

said progress bar visually representing progress of a primary background operating; [and]

said action button selectable by a user for initiating an action with respect to said primary background operation [.] ;

executing at least one secondary background operation;

displaying a second action button in said progress control bar; and

responsive to user selection of said second action button, displaying a drop

list of second progress control bars, with one second progress control bar for each said secondary background operation.

Claim 22:

A computer program product or computer program element for displaying the status of tasks according to method steps comprising:

displaying in a progress control bar a progress bar and a first action button;

said progress bar visually representing progress of a primary background operating; [and]

said action button selectable by a user for initiating an action with respect to said primary background operation [.] ;

executing at least one secondary background operation;

displaying a second action button in said progress control bar; and

responsive to user selection of said second action button, displaying a drop list of second progress control bars, with one second progress control bar for each said secondary background operation.

Claim 23:

A system for displaying the status of a plurality of threaded tasks operating in the background, comprising a status bar; a progress control bar in the status bar for a primary task operating in the background and including a progress bar and first and second action buttons; the progress bar visually representing progress of a primary background operation; said first action button being selectable by a user for initiating an action with respect to said primary background operation and [canceling] collapsing a drop list of secondary progress control bars for secondary tasks also operating in the background.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The Examiner has carefully considered the independent claims 1, 9, 10, 15, 22 and 23. The method and system for “displaying the status of a plurality of threaded tasks operating in the background” as claimed was not taught or suggested by the prior arts. The method and system for displaying in a progress control bar a progress bar which represents progress of a primary background operation and a first action button which is selectable by a user for initiating an action with respect to said primary background operation are well known in the arts as taught by Ording [US 2001/0055017] and Neilsen [US 6,639,687].

As Ording discloses a computer implemented method and corresponding apparatus for displaying in a progress control bar (figure 2A, 200a) a progress bar (figure 2A, 220) and a first action button (figure 2A, 230).

However, none of the references teach or suggest displaying in a status bar a progress control bar a progress bar, a first action and a second action buttons that responsive to user selection of said second action button, displaying a drop list of second progress control bars, with one second progress control bar for each said secondary background operation. The advantage of the method and system is displaying the status of plurality of background task in a non-obtrusive manner responsive to user request.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Responses to this action should be mailed to: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231. If applicant desires fax a response, (703) 746-7238), may be used for formal After Final communications, (703) 746-7239 for Official communications, or (703) 746-7240 for Non-Official or draft communications. NOTE, A Request for Continuation (Rule 60 or 62) cannot be faxed.

Please label "PROPOSED" or "DRAFT" for information facsimile communications. For after final responses, please label "AFTER FINAL" or "EXPEDITED PROCEDURE" on the document.

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA., Fourth Floor (Receptionist).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mylinh Tran whose telephone number is (703) 308-1304. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 8.00AM to 4.30PM

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If attempt to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner 's supervisor, Heather Herndon, can be reached on (703) 308-5186,

All Internet e-mail communications will be made of record in the application file. PTO employees do not engage in Internet communications where there exists a possibility that sensitive information could be identified or exchanged unless the record includes a properly signed express waiver of the confidentiality requirements of 35 U.S.C. 122. This is more clearly set forth in the Interim Internet Usage Policy published in the Official Gazette of the Patent and Trademark on February 25, 1997 at 1195 OG 89.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3800.

Mylinh Tran

Art Unit 2179



BA HUYNH
PRIMARY EXAMINER